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(54) Title: NANOSTRUCTURES

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to nanotubes and in particular to a process and apparatus for the preparation of nanotubes. In particular, the present invention relates to nanotubes which are made from materials other than carbon or nanotubes containing carbon but which would not ordinarily be classed as carbon nanotubes on account of their low carbon content. The nanostructures of the present invention have a number of applications such as: ionic conductors/battery components, hydrogen storage, templating nanowires, electrical devices, catalysis and synthesis, flat screen technology, and mechanical applications.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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|---|---|--|--|--|-----------------------|
| <b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b><br>IPC 7 C01B21/06 C01B3/00 C01B35/04 C01B31/30 C01B33/06  |   |  |  |  |                       |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC   |   |  |  |  |                       |
| <b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b><br>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)<br>IPC 7 C01B  |   |  |  |  |                       |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched   |   |  |  |  |                       |
| Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)<br>EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, CHEM ABS Data, INSPEC  |   |  |  |  |                       |
| <b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>   |   |  |  |  |                       |
| Category  | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  |  |  |  | Relevant to claim No. |
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| X   |   |  |  |  | 14                    |
| X   |   |  |  |  | 14,15                 |
| A   |   |  |  |  | 12,14                 |
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| 6 July 2004   |   | 12/07/2004   |  |  |                       |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA<br>European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2<br>NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk<br>Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,<br>Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016  |   | Authorized officer<br><br>Zalm, W                  |  |  |                       |

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

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| Patent document cited in search report |    | Publication date | Patent family member(s) |              | Publication date |
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